



Document Purpose

This document is an addendum to the overarching Okeanos Explorer FY12 Data Management Plan (EX_FY12_DMP.pdf) and is specific to the EX-12-02-Leg 1 mission entitled “Gulf of Mexico Exploration” For more detailed information on the data management effort for the Okeanos Explorer in FY12, please refer to that document.

General Description of the Data to be Managed

During the *Okeanos Explorer (EX)* mission EX1202 Leg 1, the vessel will sail from Charleston, S.C., around the tip of Florida, and to the northeastern region of the Gulf of Mexico to map the West Florida Escarpment and DeSoto Canyon. The EX will run its Kongsberg EM302 multibeam sonar survey system 24 hours per day with periodic XBT casts for calibration. One to three CTD casts are planned. The EM302 produces bathymetric, bottom backscatter, and water column backscatter data. At two targeted survey sites, the EM302, the Knudsen CIRP 3260 sub-bottom profiler, and the Simrad EK60 single beam sonar sensor will be employed.

- Name of Dataset
 - : “EX1202 Leg 1: Gulf of Mexico Exploration”
- Mission Specific Keywords:
 - Charleston
 - West Florida Escarpment
 - Western Florida Escarpment
 - DeSoto Canyon
 - Hurricane Katrina
 - MC20
 - Tampa
- Summary description:
 - EX 1202 Leg I of NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* (EX) will focus on exploring the northeastern region of the Gulf of Mexico using the ships’ Kongsberg EM302 multibeam sonar, EK 60 and Knudsen sub-bottom profiler. EX1202 Leg I operations are expected to commence on February 27, 2012 at Charleston, SC and conclude on March 14, 2012 at Tampa, FL. The planed transit line from Charleston, SC to the working grounds is ~ 1000 nautical miles and is expected to take ~ 5 days at an average speed of 8.5 knots. Multibeam mapping operations will be conducted 24 hours a day during the transit, including regular XBT casts. Data management procedures are fully documented in the data management plan for the Okeanos Explorer for the FY12 field season (EX_FY12_DMP.pdf)
- Temporal Bounds:
 - February 27, 2012 – March 14, 2012
- Spatial Bounds:
 - Northern – 32.75
 - Southern – 24.05

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- Western – -85.72
 - Eastern – -77.71
- Data Type Collections for Preservation/Stewardship:
 - Multibeam Bathymetry – continuous collection during the entire duration of the expedition
 - Bottom Backscatter – continuous collection during the entire duration of the expedition
 - Water Column Backscatter – continuous collection during the entire duration of the expedition
 - Scientific Computing System (SCS) output – continuous collection of navigational, meteorological, integrated oceanographic sensor data
 - XBT – continuous casts approx. 6 hours apart collecting water temperature at depth for sound velocity calculations
 - CTD – test casts with Rosette firings collecting conductivity, temperature, depth and water samples at targeted depths
 - Knudsen CHIRP 3260 –sub-bottom profiler data as deemed appropriate by the ship
 - EK60 – single beam sonar for water column features during the entire duration of the expedition
- Data Product/Product Collections for Preservation/Stewardship:
 - Gridded bathymetry (.txt)
 - Gridded bathymetric image (.tif)
 - Fledermaus gridded bathymetry imagery (.sd)
 - Fledermaus gridded backscatter imagery (.sd)
 - Google Earth gridded bathymetry (.kml)
 - ArcView gridded bathymetry (.asc)
 - SCS data output in NetCDF
 - CTD data output in NetCDF
 - Final Mapping Summary document
 - Final Cruise Summary document
- Volume of Data Expected
 - Approximately 150 GB of data is expected to be collected on this mission.
- Personally Identifiable Information (PII) concerns
 - No PII will be included in these data.

Points of Contact

- Overall Point of Contact (POC) for the data:
 - Data Acquisition: Mashkoor Malik (Mashkoor.Malik@noaa.gov)
 - Data Management: Susan Gottfried (Susan.Gottfried@noaa.gov)
- Responsible for Data Quality:
 - Seafloor mapping and water column data: Mashkoor Malik
 - SCS data: Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO); Lt. Megan Nadeau, Okeanos Explorer Operations Officer (Ops.Explorer@noaa.gov)
- Responsible for data documentation and metadata activities:
 - National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC); Susan Gottfried, OER Data Management Coordinator
- Responsible for the data storage and data disaster recovery activities:
 - NOAA National Data Centers; National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC), NOAA Central Library (NCL)
- Responsible for ensuring adherence to this data management plan, including resources are made available to implement the DMP:

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- Data Acquisition: Mashkoor Malik, Expedition Coordinator
- Data Acquisition: Lt. Megan Nadeau, OMAO, Okeanos Explorer Operations Officer
- Data Management: Susan Gottfried, OER Data Management Coordinator

Data Stewardship

- What quality control procedures will be employed?
 - Quality control procedures for the data from the Kongsberg EM302 is handled at UNH CCOM/JHC. Raw (level-0) bathymetry files are cleaned/edited and converted to a variety of products.
 - Data from sensors monitored through the SCS are archived in their native format and are not quality controlled.
- What is the overall lifecycle of the data from collection or acquisition to making it available to customer?
 - All data from this mission is expected to be archived and accessible within 60-90 days post-mission.
 - METOC data from the SCS are converted in a post-mission model into archive-ready compressed NetCDF3 format and stored within the NODC THREDDS open-access server.

Data Documentation

- An ISO format metadata record to document the mission will be generated during pre-cruise planning and published in an OER catalog for public discovery and access. Data collections and products will be documented with ISO or FGDC CSDGM metadata and published at the appropriate NOAA Data Center.
- ISO 19115-2 Geographic Information with Extensions for Imagery and Gridded Data will be the metadata standard employed.

Data Sharing

- All data recorded, observed, generated or otherwise produced on the Okeanos Explorer are considered non-proprietary and will be made available to the public as soon as possible after a period of due diligence in performing quality assurance and data documentation procedures.

Initial Data Storage and Protection

- Data are recorded and stored on NOAA shipboard systems compliant with NOAA IT procedures. Data are moved from ship to shore using a variety of standard, documented data custody transfer procedures. Data are transferred to NOAA data centers using digital and physical data transfer models depending upon data volume.

Long-Term Archiving and Preservation

- Data from this mission will be preserved and stewarded through the NOAA National Data Centers. Refer to the Okeanos Explorer FY12 Data Management Plan (EX_FY12_DMP.pdf) for detailed descriptions of the processes, procedures, and partners involved in this collaborative process. Appendix A has an excerpt from EX_FY12_DMP.pdf that illustrates the data and product pipelines that will be employed for this mission.

Data Management Objectives

The DMT's objectives for this mission are:

- Develop ISO metadata for collection-level and dataset-level records (multibeam, singlebeam sonar, sub-bottom profiler, XBT, CTD, EX METOC)
- Onboard data manager will exercise documented operational data pipelines.
- Onboard data manager to copy SCS, EK60, CTD, and XBT data to hard-drive supplied by the data management team to bring back for post-processing in the event the SBRS – SRS transmissions are unsuccessful due to problems with connectivity.
- Ensure the near real-time update of the *Okeanos Atlas* with
 - Ship track and hourly observations received via email.
 - Daily logs pulled from URI through RSS feeds and links to related images on oceanexplorer.noaa.gov website.
 - CTD cast locations with thinned profiles to be compared to the World Ocean Atlas historical profiles for the general location and month.
 - Daily cumulative bathymetric image overlays received via URI SRS.
 - Execute multibeam and oceanographic data pipelines according to the FY12 DMP (EX_FY12_DMP.pdf).

Expedition Principals for Data Management

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Appendix A: Data and Product Pipelines (excerpt from EX_FY12_DMP.pdf)***Oceanographic/Meteorological/Navigational Data Archive Pipeline***

Data from hull-mounted and off-board oceanographic and meteorological (METOC) sensors; integrated oceanographic sensors from the submersibles; and navigational instrumentation on both the vessel and its submersibles are monitored through the ship's Scientific Computer System (SCS). Some of these data will be used in a near real-time mode to update the *Okeanos Atlas*. All of these data will be archived at the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC) Marine Data Stewardship Division (MDSD) in Silver Spring, MD. A collection level metadata record describing the data inventory to be archived at the NODC/MDSD will be included with the data submission.

Oceanographic/Meteorological/Navigational Data/Products Pipeline

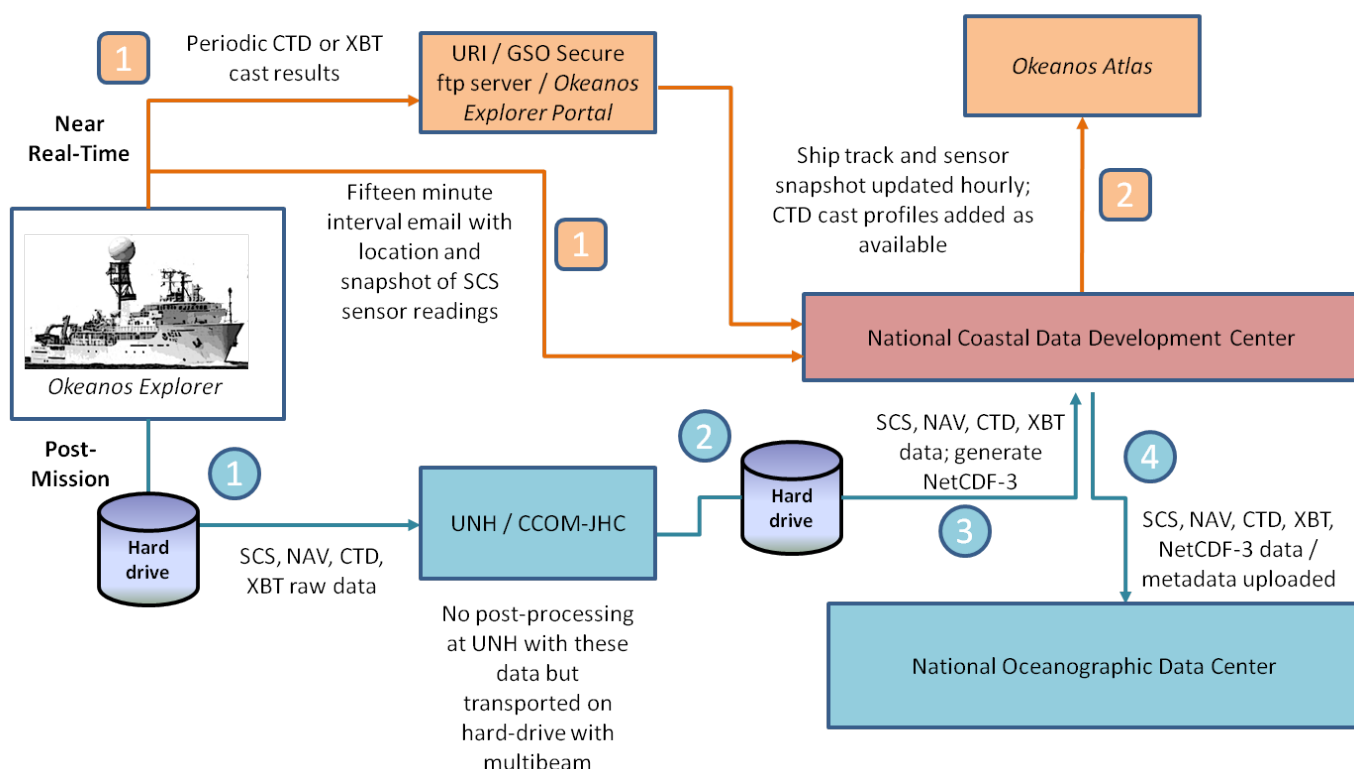


Fig 1: Oceanographic/Meteorological/Navigational Data Archive Pipeline

1

At periodic (currently twenty minutes) intervals, an email from the ship to NCDDC is delivered with the ship's position and a snapshot of the SCS sensor suite.

As CTD or XBT casts are deployed, the results of the cast are included in the hourly synchronizations to the SRS.

2

The GIS team at NCDDC processes CTD cast data into thinned profiles for comparison to World Ocean Atlas historical profiles in the same region and month. The thinned profiles are geo-located on the Okeanos Atlas. Ship track and sensor snapshot readings are geo-located on the Okeanos Atlas.

1

All SCS data, including navigation and CTD/XBT cast data are saved to a hard-drive. This hard-drive is the same that will hold the multibeam survey raw data and products generated on-board. This hard-drive will be either brought back or shipped to the University of New Hampshire Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (UNH CCOM) for post-processing, after which it will be shipped to NCDDC.

2

The Data Management team will post-process the SCS, NAV, CTD, and XBT raw data files, adding ASCII headers to each file and generating NetCDF-3 formatted files for the entire cruise for both SCS/NAV data and CTD/XBT data. FGDC CSDGM metadata will be generated for the navigational data and for the METOC sensor data.

3

The ASCII files, and the metadata will be uploaded to the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), where they will be accessioned and archived.

4

The NetCDF3 files will be stored within an NCDDC hosted Thematic Real-time Environmental Distributed Data Services (THREDDS) server for user discoverability and access.

Data Class	Instrument	Data Type	Format	Metadata Granularity	Archive Center
OCN/MET	All SCS monitored sensors	Meteorological and Oceanographic data sensors	ASCII	1 meta rec	NODC/MDSD
NAV	DGPS, CNAV	EX, ROV, and sled navigation	ASCII	1 meta rec	NODC/MDSD
ALL	All	Archive Ready	NetCDF-3	1 meta rec	NODC/MDSD

Table 4: Oceanographic/Meteorological/Navigational Metadata Granularity and Target Archive

Multibeam Survey Data Archive Pipeline

The multibeam survey data collected by bottom-looking and complementary sensors, data from the calibration instruments, and the products generated after the data is returned to and post-processed at UNH will be archived at the NGDC. These data will be accompanied with a collection level metadata record for the NGDC as well as individual metadata records for each raw (level-0) file, each edited (level-1) file and each data product (level-2) and report (level-3) generated as a result. In addition, the submission to NGDC will include the following:

- raw (level-0) mapping survey and water column data files,
- CTD and/or XBT profile data used for calibration in multibeam survey,
- post-processed, quality assured, and edited (level-1) data files,
- specific data products (level-2) including cumulative GeoTIF images, gridded bathymetric files, KML files, Fledermaus output files, and an ArcGrid format, and
- comprehensive mapping survey data summary (level-3) report.

Multibeam Data/Products Pipeline

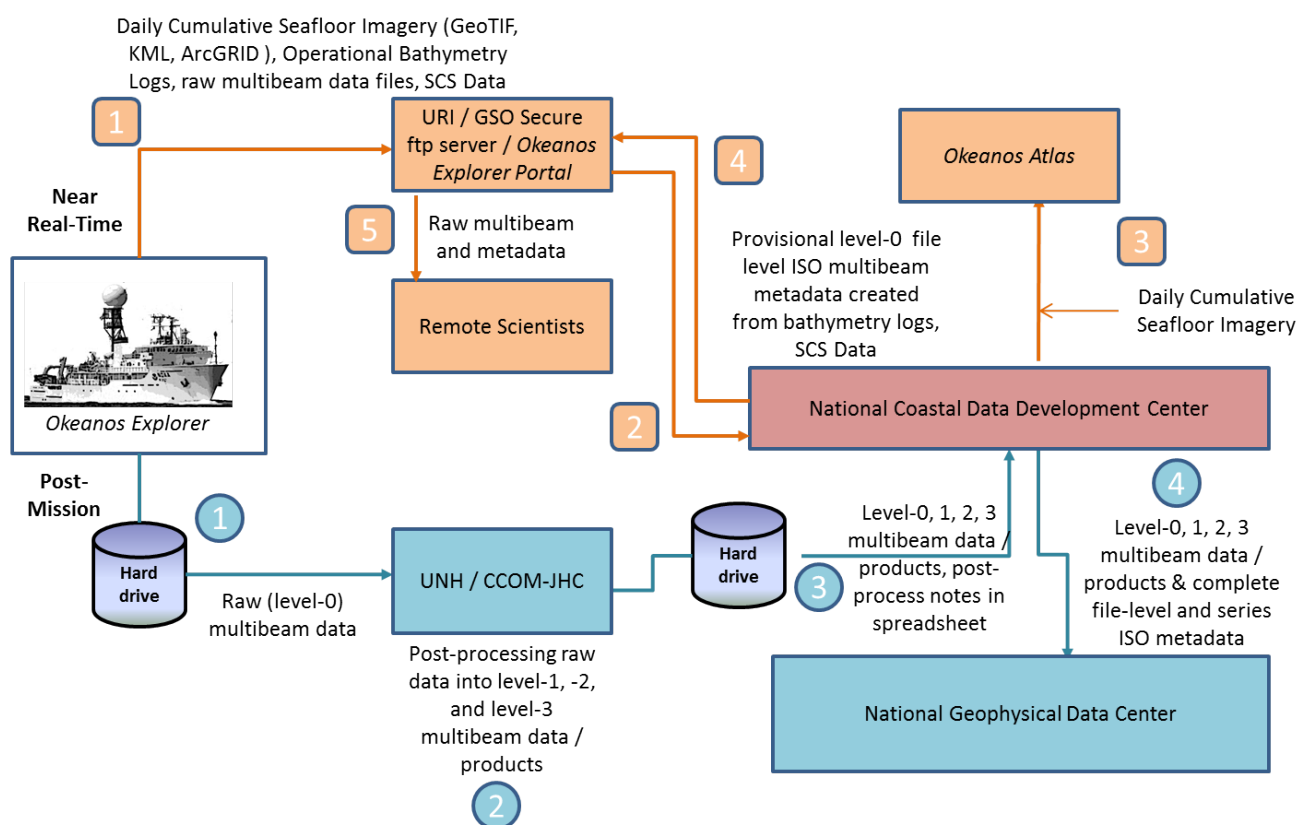


Figure 2: Multibeam Survey Data Archive Pipeline

Near Real-Time

1

The mapping survey team on the EX will include their operational processing spreadsheet in the folder that is targeted for synchronization to the SRS periodically throughout the day. As operational GeoTIFF images are created, these will also be saved to this folder.

2

The data management team at NCDDC pulls the GeoTIFF images, operational bathymetry processing spreadsheet and the SCS data streams for near real-time metadata generation and Okeanos Atlas update procedures.

3

Daily cumulative GeoTIFF images of the seafloor imagery are geo-located on the Okeanos Atlas by the GIS team at NCDDC.

4

Provisional metadata in an ISO format is generated for each raw (level-0) multibeam raw files using the SCS exported data, the operational processing spreadsheet and saved to the SRS.

5

Participating scientists wanting access to the raw multibeam in near real-time can pull the individual files with the metadata that provides operational and provisional processing steps and a disclaimer for non-QC status of the data.

Post-Mission

1

All bottom-looking sensor data and complementary data (water column and sound velocity) are saved to a hard-drive. This hard-drive will be either brought back or shipped to the University of New Hampshire Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (UNH CCOM) for post-processing.

2

A full complement of multibeam data from a 30-day EX cruise on which the Kongsberg EM302 multibeam system runs continuously will produce 200-300 Gigabytes of raw multibeam (37.5% of total volume) and water column data (62.5% of total volume). At UNH, the mapping team will post-process the multibeam data through the following steps:

- The raw (level-0) data will be saved to the CCOM file servers, where they will be quality checked and post-processed.
- The edited level-0 data is saved as level-1 data files in a non-proprietary format – ASCII xyz files (cleaned not gridded).

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- The post-processing steps used to produce the level-1 data will be documented.
- Level-2 products will be generated from the level-1 data files.
- The post-processing steps used to produce the level-2 data products will be documented.
- The level-1 data, level-2 products, post-processing steps, and working data processing spreadsheets will be copied to the hard drive in a new folder. A processing spreadsheet for FY12 will contain the temporal and spatial limits of each file and any supplemental information documenting problems or issues that affected the quality of the data in that file.

3 The hard-drive will be shipped to the NCDDC within approximately 3 weeks from cruise end date.

4 At NCDDC, all multibeam related files will be post-processed through metadata generation procedures. Metadata will be generated for each individual survey track file (level-0 and -1), for accompanying CTD/XBT profile data sets, for composite xyz files, KMLs, GeoTIFs, png images, and Fledermaus output (level-2), and a set of data products and reports (level-3). The metadata will be added to the hard-drive and the hard-drive will be shipped to NGDC.

Data Class	Instrument	Data Type	Format	Metadata Granularity	Archive Center
GEO	Kongsberg EM302 (30 kHz)	Multibeam Bathymetry, Bottom Backscatter, Water Column Backscatter (proprietary format read into MBSsystem)	.all, .wcd (proprietary)	1 meta rec per .all file in Multibeam Data folder and subfolders	NGDC
GEO	Simrad EK60	Singlebeam (time,depth)	.txt, (ASCII), .raw (proprietary)	Included in the SCS feed	TBD
GEO	Knudsen CHIRP 3260 (3.5 kHz)	Sub-bottom profile	.sgy, .kea, .keb (proprietary)	1 meta rec = Subbottom Profile Data folder	NGDC
OCN	SeaBird SBE-911plus	CTD Cast	.hex, .con (Proprietary); .cnv, .hdr, .bl, .jpg (processed)	1 meta rec = CTD folder	NGDC
OCN	Sippican MK-21 eXpendable BathyThermograph (XBT)	XBT	.edf (ASCII), .rdf (proprietary)	1 meta rec = XBT folder	NGDC
OCN	RESON	Sound Velocity (m/s)	TBD	1 meta rec = RESON folder	NGDC
OCN	Calculated	Sound Velocity (m/s)	.asvp (ASCII)	1 meta rec = Profile_Data/SVP or Profile_Data/ASVP	NGDC

Table 5: Multibeam Survey Metadata Granularity and Target Archive